

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are pending.

Claims 1-6 are rejected.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner states that the Information Disclosure Statement filed 02/13/04 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) because it requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document. Accordingly, the Applicant hereby submits a legible copy of foreign patent document GB Patent No. 2373408 for consideration by the Examiner.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CF 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

The Examiner objects to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a), asserting that each first and further loudspeaker enclosures comprise a front cover with an opening is not shown in the drawings. Figure 3 clearly shows a loudspeaker enclosure that comprises a front cover (1) shown with an opening. Applicant believes that Figure 3 shows the required features. However, Applicant will file under separate cover, in a Supplemental Amendment to be subsequently filed, a new drawing depicting two loudspeaker enclosures, one of which is identical to that shown in Figure 3 but is smaller in size. Clear support for this new drawing can be found in, for example, claim 3 as originally filed.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

The Examiner states that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. It is alleged that the original specification does not disclose a first loudspeaker coupled with a first enclosure configured to have a first frequency response and at least one further loudspeaker coupled with a second enclosure configured to have a second frequency response as now claimed in claim 1. The Examiner has stated that the specification discloses that a loudspeaker system is set forth incorporating at least two asymmetric enclosures (of different sizes) having different but overlapping frequency responses (page 2) or two loudspeaker enclosures with different volumes and characteristics are used (page 4).

Claim 1 has been rejected because the Examiner asserts that the specification does not disclose a first loudspeaker coupled with a first enclosure configured to have a first frequency response and at least one further loudspeaker coupled with a second enclosure configured to have a second frequency response. The Examiner asserts that the specification only discloses a loudspeaker system incorporating at least two asymmetric enclosures having different but overlapping frequency responses. The Examiner's allegations are respectfully traversed. The specification is replete with discussion of a plurality of speakers that are clearly coupled with an associated enclosure. At, for example, page 2, beginning at line 21, it is disclosed that "By using a plurality of speakers at least one of which has a bass reflex enclosure, a monophonic system is provided with a flat frequency response. The dimensions of the speaker enclosures are chosen such that the anti-resonance of one loudspeaker enclosure is compensated for by the resonance of another speaker enclosure, without making use of damping...". Further, the description at, page 4, beginning at line 20 clearly discloses the use of two speakers

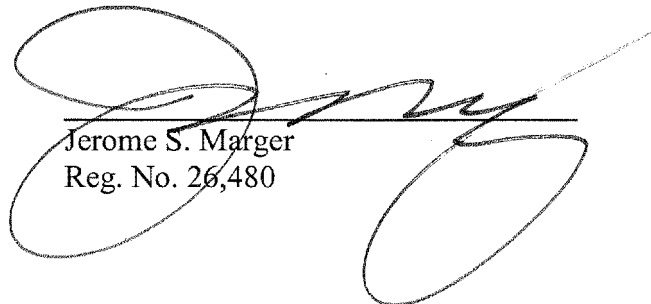
(left and right) and describes the first and second enclosure. There is absolutely no doubt from the description as originally filed that a first loudspeaker is coupled with the first enclosure and that a second loudspeaker is coupled with the second enclosure.

The Examiner avers that the specification does not disclose that each of the first and further loudspeaker enclosures comprises a front cover with an opening, an acoustically transparent grill and a gasket as claimed in claim 3. Claim 3, as originally filed, and as now claimed in claim 3, discloses the language a front cover with an opening, an acoustically transparent grill and a gasket. Therefore, claim 3 as originally filed provides clear support for the subject matter of claim 3 presently on file.

Claim 6 has been rejected as the Examiner asserts that this claim is not supported in the specification. Pending claim 6 has similar language to claim 6 as originally filed. Therefore, claim 6 presently on file is fully supported by the application as originally filed. Furthermore, signal processing is disclosed at page 5 of the application as originally filed.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6 of the application is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,



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